

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 49

BY SENATOR NEVERS

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Board of Regents, in consultation with the postsecondary education management boards, to develop a uniform policy regarding the acceptance of college credit earned by students through Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate examinations.

WHEREAS, Act 356 of the 2009 Regular Session established the Statewide Articulation and Transfer Council to coordinate, oversee, and monitor the seamless articulation and transfer of credit between and among public secondary and postsecondary educational institutions; and

WHEREAS, R.S. 17:3163(B)(6) directs the Statewide Articulation and Transfer Council to provide for acceptance by postsecondary educational institutions of credits earned in accelerated programs including Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate programs; and

WHEREAS, students earning college credit for qualifying Advanced Placement examination performance are more likely to qualify for scholarships and complete their baccalaureate degree in four years; and

WHEREAS, National Student Clearinghouse data indicate that students who complete an International Baccalaureate Diploma are thirty-eight percent more likely to graduate from college; and

WHEREAS, students who earn college credit through passage of Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate examinations are more likely to experience success in college and earn a degree; and

WHEREAS, currently there is no uniform policy governing the acceptance of college credit earned through Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate examinations; and

WHEREAS, development of a uniform policy clearly establishing the required score

on such examinations necessary for the awarding and acceptance of college credit by all public postsecondary educational institutions would motivate students to take more rigorous high school courses, and thus be better prepared for college-level work; and

WHEREAS, implementation of a uniform policy governing the acceptance of college credit earned through Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate examinations would ensure fairness and consistency for students and promote the seamless transfer of postsecondary credit as required by law.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Board of Regents, in consultation with the postsecondary education management boards, to develop a uniform policy regarding the acceptance of college credit earned by students through Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate examinations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the chairman of the Board of Regents and the commissioner of higher education.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES